

REMARKS

Applicant has reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on June 4, 2009. At the time when the Office Action was received, claims 21-23, 25-41, and 45-50 were pending. Applicant has added claims 51-58, for which support can be found in the claims as originally filed.

Election/Restrictions

An election is required to be made from one of the following Groups identified in the Office Action:

- I. Claims 21-23, 25-28, and 48-50, drawn to a portable vacuum desiccator comprising a cartridge, a vacuum pump, a motor, a battery, and a tube, classified in class 604, subclass 317.
- II. Claims 29-36, drawn to a portable vacuum desiccator comprising a chamber, a vacuum pump, a motor, a battery, and a tube, classified in class 604, subclass 319.
- III. Claims 37-40 and 45-47, drawn to a portable vacuum desiccator comprising a chamber, a vacuum pump, a motor, a battery, a microfilter, and a tube, classified in class 604, subclass 327.
- IV. Claim 41, drawn to a portable vacuum desiccator comprising a housing having a removable cartridge, a vacuum pump, a motor, and a tube, classified in class 604, subclass 19.

To expedite the prosecution of this application, Applicant elects, with traverse, the claims associated with Group II and represented by claims 29-36. Applicant has also added claims 51-58, which are associated with the subject matter of Group II.

Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement because the Office Action fails to show that there would be a serious burden on the Examiner if restriction were not required, as required by MPEP § 803. No serious search burden exists in the present case because the search has already been performed for each of the combination of elements identified in Groups I-IV above in the Office Actions dated

January 29, 2008 and October 20, 2008. Therefore, the restriction requirement should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

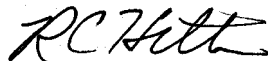
Applicant respectfully submits that the pending, non-withdrawn claims 29-36 and 51-58 are in condition for full and immediate allowance and the same is respectfully requested.

To provide for the possibility that Applicant has overlooked the need for a fee, including a fee for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-3140 of Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal LLP.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if, in the opinion of the Examiner, such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application. Any communication initiated under this paragraph should be deemed an "Applicant-Initiated Interview."

Respectfully submitted,

DATE: 6/30/09



Robert C. Hilton
Reg. No.: 47,649
Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal
2000 McKinney Avenue, Suite 1900
Dallas, Texas 75201
Phone: (214) 259-0950
Fax: (214) 259-0910